
This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

Google[™] books

<http://books.google.com>



Dietas Quotidiana. 4

PRAYERS
AND
MEDITATIONS

FOR
EVERY DAY IN THE WEEK;
AND ON
VARIOUS OCCASIONS;

BEING
A COLLECTION
FROM THE
MOST EMINENT DIVINES
AND
MORAL WRITERS.

"Commune with your own heart, and in your chamber, and be still."

L O N D O N
Printed for
PEACOCK & BAMPTON, SALISBURY SQUARE;
and BOWDERY & KERBY, Oxford-street.

1825.



T. C. HANSARD,
Water-noster-rog Press.

CONTENTS.

MORNING PRAYERS—		PAGE
<i>Sunday</i>		5
<i>Monday</i>		6
<i>Tuesday</i>		8
<i>Wednesday</i>		9
<i>Thursday</i>		10
<i>Friday</i>		11
<i>Saturday</i>		15
<i>Prayer for Morning or Evening</i>		17

EVENING PRAYERS	19
<i>On going to Rest</i>	22

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS—	
<i>New Year's Day</i>	23
<i>Birth-day</i>	24
<i>For Grace and Faith</i>	25—26
<i>Omnipresence of God</i>	27
<i>For Spiritualised Affections</i>	27
<i>For Meekness of Temper</i>	28
<i>Invocation of the Spirit</i> ..	30
<i>For Stedfast Resolutions</i>	31
<i>In Affliction</i>	31
<i>In Depression of Spirits</i>	32—33
<i>For Repentance</i>	35
<i>Confession of Sin</i>	36
<i>For Pardon of Sins</i>	36
<i>For Aid of the Spirit</i>	38—39

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
<i>On Reading the Scriptures</i>	41
<i>Against worldly Thoughts</i>	41—42
<i>In Sickness</i>	(MS.) 43—44
<i>By Madame Elizabeth of France</i> ...	45
<i>Various</i>	46—50

EJACULATIONS—

<i>In Temptation</i>	51
<i>In Affliction</i>	51
<i>On falling into Sin</i>	51
<i>On Deliverance from Danger</i>	52
<i>On coming into Church</i>	52
<i>Preparatory Prayer</i>	52
<i>Prayer</i>	53

MEDITATIONS—

<i>On the Sense of Sin</i>	54
<i>On Death</i>	56—59
<i>Death and Judgment</i>	59
<i>On the State of the Soul</i>	62
<i>Self-Condernnation</i>	63
<i>Self-Examination Daily</i>	66
<i>Self-Examination Weekly</i>	67
<i>Meditation in a Wakeful Night—</i> <i>selected from the Psalms</i>	73

LYRICA SACRA—

<i>Various Hymns</i>	75—89
----------------------------	-------

<i>INDEX</i>	90
--------------------	----

P R E F A C E.

“PRAYER is, or ought to be the continual exercise of our life, for it is to our souls what meat and drink are to our bodies, their repast, their support, their nourishment. Prayer is the great universal instrument by which we draw down blessings from above, and obtain possession of whatever we want. Prayer is our defence and preservative against sin and temptation. It is the security of our virtue, and the especial means to advance it. Prayer is the wing of our souls, whereby we raise ourselves above this lower world to the God above, with whom, while we therein converse, we become more and more transformed into his nature. Whatever anticipations of heaven there be here upon earth, whatever foretastes we Christians have in these bodies of the happiness of eternity, they are all brought about by the means of prayer.”—*From a Sermon of Archbishop SHARP.*

“PRAYER may be considered as the root from which all religious and moral duties

derive their nourishment, and those who do not pray, can have no religion. It is impossible, says Archbishop Sharp, for any man to be good who lives without constant prayer; whoever is good at the present, yet if he disuse himself in this point, he will not long continue good. Whoever makes a conscience of praying frequently and heartily, and continues to do so, though he cannot at present be said to be a good man, yet it is impossible for him long to continue bad. He will certainly at last get the victory over his lusts, and evil habits. It does not invalidate this assertion, to say, that in this case, great numbers have no religion. So much the greater pity. They may have some virtue, be moral and useful members of society; but what idea can be formed of religion without prayer? To forget God is the character of the worst man in Scripture. 'It is impossible,' says a judicious writer, 'that a man should be good who neglects secret prayer, and next to impossible that he should ever become so. The neglect of prayer shows that he has no right notions of God, no sense of his presence, no hearty desires of his mercy, no solid hope of his favour.' It is much to be wished, therefore, that those who have hitherto neglected daily to remember

God in prayer, would finally resolve no longer to neglect so important a duty. And the only sure way to keep up devotion; both in secret, and in a family, is to fix for that end the most convenient hours, both morning and evening, and resolutely to observe them, 'When the times of prayer are thus settled,' says Bishop Gibson, 'it will be accounted a part of 'the business of the day, and as the neglect of it occasions an habitual forgetfulness of God, and the things of another life, so the daily practice of it (if it is not suffered to dwindle into a mere lifeless form) keeps up in families a face and spirit of religion, and is the best means that fathers, mothers, masters and mistresses can use to preserve in themselves, their children and servants, such a religious and heavenly frame of mind, as becomes a society of Christians.' 'The daily exercise of devotion,' says the same Bishop, in his little treatise *On the Sinfulness of Profaning the Lord's Day*, 'keeps the soul in a habitual preparation to move towards heaven, and by this exercise, the thoughts are more easily disentangled from our worldly cares and diversions, and more readily framed to attend the wish at the proper seasons of devotion; whether in public or in private.'

“It cannot be supposed, that persons who use the following forms of prayer, are under the necessity of confining themselves to every expression and sentiment in them. Any words or sentences may be added, omitted, or changed, as they see occasion, to suit their present state, their own judgment of things, and their circumstances. For it can never be expected, that the same method or form of private prayer should suit all persons, or even the same person at all times. It is impossible, that a serious Christian can present to God in secret prayer all his wants, all his sorrows, all his dearest and most important concerns in a few general sentences pre-composed by another.”—*Chiefly from Sir J. Stonhouse's remarks, in his Collection of Prayers.*

4 DE60

MORNING PRAYERS.

Sunday.

[*Hannah Moore.*]

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, I thank thee for all the blessings of this life, but especially for appointing the Sabbath to be a day on which we may attend to the salvation of our immortal souls. O LORD, grant that I may rightly use the religious opportunities which I enjoy. Preserve me from inattention during thy public worship. In prayer may I feel my need of the mercies I implore; in the confession of sin may I be affected with the sense of my own unworthiness; and in offering up my thanksgivings may I pour out my whole heart before thee. When I hear thy word read, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ preached, enable me to listen with an attentive ear, and receive thy truth with an honest and pure heart. And I beseech thee to preserve in me a right frame of mind throughout the day that is before me. May I think on my ascended Lord, and put away from me all folly and vanity, as well

as vice, and all eager desires after the things of this life; all anger and passion and covetous desires, and whatever else is hateful in thy sight. I lament, that in passing through the week, I am so often entangled by the temptations and cares of life. I pray thee now to call my thoughts from all earthly considerations, and to fix them on those unspeakable joys which are at thy right hand for evermore. O my God, strengthen my faith, increase my hope, and fill my heart with love to thee, and fervent charity towards my fellow-creatures. Help me also to repent of my sins, examining carefully my conduct during the week, and thus may I learn to amend my life, and to run with patience the race that is set before me. Make me to go to rest this night, thankful for the opportunities of instruction which I have enjoyed, and for all the blessings of the Gospel. And may the peace of God keep me ever in his fear and knowledge, and in the love of his dear Son, my blessed Saviour. *Amen.*

Monday.

[Mrs. Chapone.]

O GRACIOUS FATHER of the universe, behold thy creature humbly imploring thy forgiveness of her numerous past trans-

gressions, and thy compassion for her present faulty dispositions, and her defects in all those virtues which must raise her to a better condition. Turn not from me, O God, the light of thy countenance, nor take from me the blessed influence of thy Spirit; enlighten my mind; strengthen my faith; purify and invigorate the desires of my heart towards that which is good: save and deliver me from evil, O LORD GOD, most holy, most beneficent and merciful Creator! Consign me not to destruction; cast me not out of thy presence, and of the society of good spirits; but grant me all the assistance I stand in need of, to become what I ought to be, and to make the best use of that short period of life which may still remain for me in this world, after all the time I have wasted, or misemployed. Thou knowest all my weaknesses and wants, and all the infirmities of my soul and body. Help me, O my Father, to obey thee, and love thee as I ought; raise my dull spirit to such true reverence and adoration, such gratitude for thy past benefits, and such hope in thy future mercies, as may best recommend the humble homage of my prayers and praises, and grant that the time may come, when my heart shall be as warm and sincere in these affections as my frail nature is capable of; imperfect

as they are, may thy goodness accept them, and through the merits and mediation of my blessed Redeemer, bring me to that state where I shall be good and happy, and praise thy glorious name, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Tuesday.

I BLESS thee, O Lord, that thou art giving me another day ; grant me such assistance that I may improve it diligently, by communing with thee and my own heart, in meditation and prayer. Almighty God, who dwellest in the highest heavens, yet dost vouchsafe to regard the lowest creatures upon earth, I humbly adore thy divine Majesty, and with all the powers of my soul and body, do exalt and praise thy holy name, for all the mercies and comforts of this life, and for the hopes and assurance of a better, for protecting me from the evils and dangers of the night past, and for bringing me safely to a new day. Continue thy mercy and goodness to me : and as thou hast awakened my body from sleep, so raise my soul from the death of sin, to a life of righteousness. Deliver me, O God, from the evils of this day, and guide my feet in the paths of peace and holiness, and strengthen my resolutions to

embrace all opportunities of doing good, and carefully to avoid all those sins which, by nature and by habit, I am most likely to fall into; and when, through frailty or violence of temptation, I fall from my duty, do thou in mercy restore me again with a double portion of thy grace and Holy Spirit, to make a more vigorous defence against Satan and his devices. Make me diligent in all the duties of my calling, and grant that in all the chances and changes of this life, I may entirely submit myself to thy divine will. Let thy blessing be upon my actions, and let thy wisdom direct my intentions, that so the whole course of my life, and the principal designs of my heart may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that which is righteous in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Wednesday.

[*Dr. Johnson.*

O God, who desirest not the death of a sinner, look down with mercy on me, now daring to call upon thee. Let thy holy Spirit so purify my affections, and exalt my desires, that my prayers may be acceptable in thy sight through Jesus Christ. O merciful God, full of compassion and long-suffering, and of great pity, who sparest

when we deserve punishment, and in thy wrath thinkest upon mercy, make me earnestly to repent, and heartily to be sorry for all my misdoings; make the remembrance of them so burthensome and painful, that I may flee to thee with a troubled spirit, and a contrite heart; and, O merciful LORD. visit, comfort, and relieve me; cast me not out of thy presence, and take not thy holy Spirit from me, but excite in me true repentance; give me in this world knowledge of thy truth, and confidence in thy mercy, and in the world to come life everlasting. Forgive the days and years which I have passed in folly, idleness and sin; fill me with such sorrow for the time mis-spent, that I may amend my life according to thy holy word; strengthen me against sin, and enable me so to perform every duty, that while I live I may serve thee in the state to which thou hast called me, and at last, by a holy and happy death, be delivered from the struggles and sorrows of this life, and obtain eternal happiness by the mercy, and for the sake, of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Thursday.

MOST glorious and ever-living God, who dwellest in that light which no mortal eye can approach unto, I, thy unworthy servant,

beg leave to present myself before thy divine Majesty. O LORD, I confess that I have neither loved thee, served thee, nor obeyed thee as I ought to have done; the cares of this life are too apt to busy and distract my thoughts, and make me cold and remiss in the great and important work of my salvation. O my God, I lament the corruption of my nature, and my manifold sins and transgressions: O forgive, and wash them away, that neither those which I have committed, nor the errors I may fall into in future, may be had in remembrance before thee. O reserve not my sins to be punished in the day of thy wrath: but bury them all in the depth of thy mercy, that they may never rise up to my confusion here, nor my condemnation hereafter. Look on me, O God, as a reconciled father, and speak peace unto my conscience: say unto my soul, "I am thy salvation;" and, O LORD, I beg not only the pardon of my transgressions, but most earnestly intreat thee to enable me to forsake every evil way, and to walk before thee in newness of life. Let not sinful desires prevail in my heart; destroy in me whatever opposes itself to thy holy will; give me a lively conviction of the shortness and uncertainty of life, that my heart being weaned from the love of this world, it may daily more

and more aspire after those joys which are at thy right hand, for evermore. To this end, make me truly sensible of the vanity of this world, and let not the cares of this life ever make me neglect the great duties which thou hast given me to perform. Root out from my heart all covetous affections and desires, and let it be my great care to lay up a treasure in heaven which will not fail. Make me always mindful of my own frailty, and careful so to live, as I shall wish I had done when I come to die; and grant that I may finish the great work of my salvation before the night comes, when no man can work; that so, having laid up a good foundation of hope and comfort against the day of need, I may, when thou art pleased to call me hence, cheerfully resign my soul into thy hands; and O do then receive it for the sake of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Friday.

O MOST gracious LORD GOD, who art the Author and Finisher of every good work; without thee nothing is strong, nothing is holy; without thy grace, we are but as dust before the wind, carried to and fro, and easily driven away by every slight temptation. O LORD, I am thy servant,

I know and feel that thy service is the most perfect freedom, and that without thy favour and love, I am of all creatures the most miserable. I am fully sensible that it is my happiness, as well as my duty, to love and serve thee. I am seriously convinced, that there is no pleasure like that of a good conscience, and that the greatest satisfactions in this life are not to be compared with that fulness of joy which is in thy presence for evermore; but, alas! I am sensible that my nature is corrupt, and I know, by sad experience, that I am too apt to offend thee, and too prone to forget the vows and resolutions I make to obey thee. I beseech thee, O merciful Lord, who knowest whereof we are made, and rememberest that we are but dust, that thou wouldst be pleased of thy great goodness to pity the weaknesses of thy poor creatures, and grant me the aid of thy Holy Spirit, that I may not be tempted above what I am able to bear, but through thy Almighty power, may be enabled successfully to resist the enemies of my soul, the world, the flesh, and the devil. Let me never relax in my duty, or, for the sake of any thing this world can offer, be unmindful of the important concern of my salvation. Give me such zeal for thy

service, that the doing thy will may be my greatest joy, and imprint on my mind such a deep sense of thy love, as may inflame my heart with the most devout affection; that being daily more and more weaned from the world, I may look upon all its profits and pleasures with that indifference which becomes a servant of the blessed Jesus. Root out of my heart, O God, all pride, and envy, and covetousness; all bitterness, anger, and malice, and whatever else is contrary to the laws of the Gospel, and sow in my mind the seeds of true religion and goodness, that my whole remaining life may be one continued act of humble obedience to thy divine will. O LORD, strengthen my faith, give me an honest and upright heart, that, notwithstanding all the allurements of this life, I may continue steadfast in well-doing, that being faithful unto death, I may at last obtain that crown of righteousness which thou hast promised to them who, by patient continuance in well-doing, seek for glory, and honour, and immortality, through the merits, and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Saturday.*[Jeremy Taylor.]*

MOST holy and eternal God, Lord and Sovereign of all thy creatures, I humbly present to thy divine Majesty, myself, my soul, my body, my thoughts and words, my actions and intentions, to be disposed by thee to thy glory, to be blessed by thy providence, to be sanctified by thy Spirit, and afterwards, that my body and soul may be received into glory. This day, O LORD, and all the days of my life, I design to dedicate to thine honour, through the merits and intercession of my holy Saviour, that in him, and for him, I may be pardoned and accepted. As for me, I am not worthy to be called thy servant; LORD, pardon all my sins, for my Saviour's sake: thou who didst die for me, blessed Jesus, save and deliver me; reserve not my sins to be punished in the day of eternal vengeance, but wash away my guilt, blot it from thy remembrance, that for what is passed, thy wrath may not be excited against me, and in the time to come, I may never provoke thee to anger. Guide me, O LORD, in all the changes and varieties of the world, that in all things which shall happen, I may have an evenness and tranquillity of spirit; that my soul may be wholly resigned to thy divine will and pleasure.

never murmuring at thy fatherly correction, or growing proud and insolent in prosperity. Fix my thoughts, my hopes, and desires upon heaven, and heavenly things; teach me to despise the world, to repent deeply of my sins; give me holy purposes of amendment, and strength to perform faithfully, whatsoever I shall undertake piously. Teach me to watch over my ways, that I may not be surprised by temptation or a careless spirit. Set a watch, O LORD, before the door of my lips, that I offend not in my tongue, neither against piety or charity. Let all my passions and affections be so brought under the dominion of grace, that I may never by deliberation and purpose, nor yet by levity or rashness, offend thy divine Majesty. Make me such as thou wouldst have me to be; strengthen my faith, confirm my hope, and give me a daily increase of charity, that this day and ever I may serve thee according to all my opportunities and capacities, till at last by thy mercies, when my body shall lie down in its bed of darkness, my soul may pass into the regions of light, and live with thee for ever. Now in all tribulation and anguish of spirit, in all dangers of soul and body, in prosperity and adversity, in the hour of death, and in the

day of judgment, holy and blessed Saviour, Jesus, have mercy on me, save and deliver me, and all faithful people. *Amen.*

For MORNING, *or* EVENING.

I THANK thee, O GOD, for the quiet rest which I have enjoyed through the night past [or protecting me during the day past]; for my preservation in health and safety, free and secure from all sad casualties and evil accidents, from the wrath which I have every day deserved. O my GOD, I will give thanks to thee for ever. Grant me to serve thee faithfully by adoration and prayer, by praise and thanksgiving, and by the active exercise of every talent and means which thou hast graciously conferred upon me. I thank thee, also, that during the night [or, day] past, thou hast preserved me from all heinous sins and presumptuous wickedness [*if such should be the case; if not, confess the particular sin, and implore mercy*]; but I presume not to profess perfect innocence in any respect; for I cannot but be conscious, if not of wilful sins, yet of many negligences, ignorances, secret faults and infirmities, for which I have to implore thy mercy and pardon; and when I look back on my past life, and contemplate the mass of offences perpetuated without sorrow, or remorse through

the course of a long existence, I cannot but feel a dread of thy just judgment; and I should actually have despaired of forgiveness, if my Saviour himself had not assured me, that all sins should be forgiven unto the sons of men, and that his blood and passion were a sufficient atonement for the sins of a guilty world; through his blessed mediation, I beseech thee, therefore, O merciful God, to grant me that true repentance, and that lively faith to which thou hast annexed the benefit of his glorious passion; that my soul may be cleansed from all pollution, and my heart purified from every sin. O God, preserve my soul from farther guilt, and grant that it may daily increase in grace and in thy favour and acceptance through Jesus Christ, until at last it shall please thee of thy infinite mercy to separate my soul from my body; and that then my soul may be borne into the presence of my blessed Redeemer, where through his mercy it may remain in a state of eternal happiness, associated in heavenly love with those dear friends and relatives who are gone before me, and with the spirits of just men made perfect, who have departed this life in thy faith and fear. Even so, blessed Jesus, so let it be. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYERS.

EVENING.

I THANK thee, O LORD, for the blessings which I have this day enjoyed. Grant me this night such refreshing rest, that I may be better able to discharge the duties, and bear the burthens of another day, if thou shalt be pleased to add another day, to my life. If my eyes should be kept waking, may my meditations on thee be useful to me. Pity my weakness, O merciful God, and hear my imperfect petitions for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is touched with our infirmities, to whom as to our merciful high Priest, be glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

EVENING.

[Jeremy Taylor.]

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus, who hath sent his angels, and kept me this day from the destruction that walketh at noon, and the arrow that flieth by day, and hath given me his spirit to restrain me from those evils to which my own weaknesses and evil habits would easily betray me. Blessing, glory, honour, and power be unto him that sitteth on the

throne, and to the Lamb, for ever and ever.
Amen.

EVENING.

[*Dr. Johnson.*

O LORD, in whose hands are life and death, by whose power I am sustained, and by whose mercy I am spared, look down upon me with pity; forgive me, that I have this day neglected the duty thou hast assigned to it, and suffered the hours of which I must give account, to pass away without any endeavour to accomplish thy will, or to promote my salvation. Make me to remember, O God, that every day is thy gift, and ought to be used according to thy command. Grant me therefore so to repent of my negligence, that I may obtain mercy from thee, and pass the time which thou shalt yet allot me in the diligent performance of thy commands, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

EVENING.

I WILL lay me down in peace, and take my rest, for it is thou, LORD, only, that makest me to dwell in safety, and into thy hands I recommend my spirit, my soul, and my body; for thou hast redeemed me, O LORD, thou God of truth. Let my prayer, O LORD, be set forth as incense, and the

lifting-up of my hands be as an evening sacrifice. O LORD, our heavenly Father, whose glory the heaven of heavens cannot contain, look down from the throne of thy Majesty, and behold thy unworthy servant at the feet of thy mercy, humbly confessing to thee the vanity and sinfulness of my whole life, especially the omissions and commissions of my duty this day, where-with I have so lately offended thine infinite goodness, and so grievously wounded my own soul: of these, and all other my transgressions I most truly repent, and am heartily sorry for all my misdoings: the remembrance of them is intolerable: have mercy upon me, most merciful Father, for thy son Jesus Christ's sake, forgive me all that is past, and accept of my prayers and supplications, through the merits and mediation of the same, my Redeemer. Accept my unfeigned thanks for preserving me this day from the many dangers incident to my condition, and from the many calamities justly due to my sins. Subdue in me every evil passion; and since thou hast ordained the night to take our rest, grant me a continuance of thy gracious protection, and defend me from all the perils and dangers of this night, that being refreshed with moderate sleep, I may be enabled to discharge the duties of my calling, and to persevere in holiness and pure-

ness of living through the remainder of my days, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

EVENING.

On Going to Rest.

GRANT me, blessed LORD, so to order, govern, and end my life, that death may seize me but as sleep, and this sleep may be in rest; this rest in security, and security in eternity.

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS.

PRAYER.

New Year's Day.

[*Dr. Johnson.*

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, I again appear in thy presence, the wretched mis-spender of another year, which thou hast allotted me. O LORD, let me not sink into total depravity; look down upon me, and rescue me, at last, from the bondage of sin. Impart to me good resolutions, and give me, strength and perseverance to perform them. Take not from me thy holy Spirit, but grant that I may redeem the time lost, and that by sincere repentance and faithful obedience, I may finally obtain everlasting happiness, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

Birth Day. (1.)

[Dr. Johnson.

ALMIGHTY God, by whose mercy I am permitted to behold the beginning of another year, succour with thy help, and bless with thy favour, the creature whom thou vouchsafest to preserve. Dispel my fears, and grant that the time which thou shalt yet appoint me, may not pass unprofitably away. Let me perform to thy glory, and the good of my fellow-creatures, the work which thou shalt yet appoint me; and grant that as I draw nearer to my dissolution, I may, by the help of thy holy Spirit, feel my knowledge of thee increased, my hope exalted, and my faith strengthened; that I may, when the hour which is coming shall come, pass, by a holy death, to everlasting life, for the sake of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

Birth Day. (2.)

[Dr. Johnson.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, who hast brought me to the beginning of another year, grant me so to remember thy goodness as that every year and day which thou shalt yet grant me, may be employed in the amendment of my life, and in the diligent discharge of such duties as thy pro-

vidence shall allot me. Grant me by thy grace to know and do what thou requirest. Give me good desires, and remove those impediments which may hinder them from effect. Forgive me my sins, negligences, and ignorances, and when at last thou shalt call me to another life, receive me to everlasting happiness, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For Grace and Faith. (1.)

O HOLY and eternal Jesus, who didst die for me and for all mankind, reconciling us to God, adopting us into the portion of thine heritage, and making our souls to rely upon spiritual strength, O let me ever believe thy word, trust in thy promises, wait for thy mercies, and do thy will. Lord, I renounce whatever is against thy truth, and if secretly I believe any false proposition, I do it in the simplicity and weakness of my heart. Thou art the way, the truth, and the life. I know that what thou hast declared is the truth of God. And I desire to adhere to the religion thou hast taught. O my God, I will trust in thee. In thee, O Lord, have I trusted, let me never be confounded. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For Grace and Faith. (2.)

ALMIGHTY Father, who hast in thy gospel declared that whosoever believeth in Jesus Christ shall have everlasting life, and that this is life eternal, to know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent, increase this knowledge and confirm this faith in me. Grant me such a sense of thy mercy as may never depart from my mind. I steadfastly believe, blessed Jesus, that thou didst suffer to save me and all the world. Make me die to sin and live to righteousness. Accept my imperfect repentance and resolutions, and let the merits of my crucified Saviour supply all my wants and imperfections. Grant this, O merciful Father, through the same thy Son Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

Acknowledgment of the Omnipresence of God.

O ALMIGHTY God, Infinite and Eternal, thou fillest all things with thy presence, thou art every where by thy essence and by thy power; in heaven by glory, in the hearts of thy servants by thy spirit, and in the consciences of all men by thy observation of us. Teach me to walk always in thy

sight, to fear thy majesty, to revere thy wisdom and omniscience, that I may never dare to commit any crime in the eye of my LORD and judge, but that I may so demean myself that my judge may not be my accuser, and that I, expressing my belief of thy continual presence here, may feel the effects of it in the participation of eternal glory, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For spiritualized Affections.

O ETERNAL FATHER that sittest in heaven invested with essential glory and divine perfections, fill my soul with so deep a sense of the excellence of spiritual things, that my affections being weaned from the world, I may, by a holy discipline, a clear resolution, and a free spirit, have my conversation in heaven, and heavenly employments; that being in affections as in condition, a pilgrim and stranger here, I may covet after, and labour for an abiding city, and at last may enter into, and for ever dwell in heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For meekness of Temper.

O BLESSED GOD, thou Compassionate

Lover of souls, look with pity upon thy weak and frail creature, encompassed with many and great infirmities. My nature is corrupt, my passions are strong, and so prone am I to anger and peevishness, that every slight provocation makes me froward and impatient, and many times I am hurried into unreasonable passions. O LORD, I bewail this wretched corruption, humbly beseeching thee, for the merits of my Saviour, to pardon all the sin that it has betrayed me into, and I beg of thee, O Father of mercies, to give me a meek and quiet spirit, a patient temper, an humble, charitable, and christian disposition, that my mind may at all times be quiet and easy, my carriage gentle and obliging, and my whole conduct such as becomes the servant of the meek and blessed Jesus. Convince me, O LORD, of the great sin of anger; how contrary it is to the spirit of thy most holy religion, what an enemy it is to our happiness, and how much it unfits us for the duties we owe to thee, our neighbours, and ourselves. Let the example of my Saviour inspire me with an humble, charitable, and forgiving temper, that, like him, I may be meek and lowly of heart. O my God, it is my sincere desire to be freed from the dominion of sin, but alas! I am a feeble creature! O let the mighty power of thy grace strengthen my weak endeavours, and enable me to con-

quer my most inveterate habits. Root out of my heart all pride and vanity, all malice, hatred, prejudice, and ill will: give me an humble opinion of myself, ever remembering how much I stand in need of pity and forgiveness at thy hands. Take from me the spirit of this world, and fill me with that spirit of charity which suffereth long and is kind, that beareth all things, and is not easily provoked; so that, being filled with the peace of God which passeth all understanding, I may live in comfort, and die with joy, and hereafter dwell in those mansions of eternal bliss where thou, O LORD, and blessed Jesus, the prince of peace, livest and reigest for ever and ever. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

Invocation of the Spirit.

[*R. Sherlock.*

COME Holy Spirit, and by thy celestial influence apply to all my spiritual distempers those healing remedies which my blessed Redeemer has so dearly purchased. Illuminate my darkened understanding to give a right estimate of all things according to their real value. Regulate my disordered affections, that they no more, by their tumult or sway, first darken my understanding, and then cast down my spirit

from a state of integrity. Suppress my passions to be subject to the dictates of right reason and holy religion. Enable me by thy divine aid to stand firm against all the assaults of the devil, the world, and the flesh, that they wound me no more, or in the least infringe the innocence, purity, and peace of my conscience. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For steadfast Resolutions.

I HUMBLY beseech thee, most Merciful God, that by thy grace thou wouldst keep alive in me a constant sense of thy presence, and of my dependence upon thee. Suffer me not to return to my former sinfulness and disobedience, or again to yield to evil passions and desires, but save me not only from my worldly, but also from my spiritual enemies, and most especially save me from myself, for the sake of Jesus Christ my Saviour. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

In Affliction.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who beholdest with compassion the frailties of thy sinful creatures, deliver me, if it be thy blessed will, from the distress of mind under which I labour. Strengthen my mind, and inform my un-

derstanding, that I may rightly know my duty, and act on all occasions and in every circumstance of life, in the manner the most acceptable to thee. Pardon my secret sins and infirmities, and preserve me from all wilful neglects and offences. If thou seest it expedient for the welfare of my soul, fill me with that fervour of devotion and affection towards thee, and with that measure of spiritual comfort and assurance which may preserve my mind in a frame of cheerfulness and composure. But if trouble and bitterness of mind be more expedient for me, continue to me both this and all other afflictions which thou seest most conducive to my future happiness, and grant me to bear them with patience and resignation. Let thy holy Spirit direct and support me under every trial, and enable me to walk in thy faith and fear, that I may be at last received into thy kingdom, through the merits and mediation of thy son Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

In Depression of Spirits. (1.)

Go not far from me, O LORD, my God: make haste to help me, for corrupt imaginations are perpetually rising in my breast, and innumerable fears close me in on every side. Be pleased, O gracious LORD, to refresh

my soul with some speedy comfort ; scatter and disperse the dark and sinful thoughts which haunt my soul, by shedding thy grace on my heart ; for this alone is my hope and comfort, that I can take refuge in thy goodness ; repose my confidence, and cast all my care and burthen on thee, who never failest them that call upon thee. Give me patience under all adversities, and a happy issue out of all afflictions both of body and mind. Turn thee to me, O LORD, and have mercy upon me, for I am in misery ; the sorrows of my heart are enlarged. O bring me out of all my troubles, look upon my repentance, and forgive me all my sins. O keep my soul and deliver me. Let me not be confounded, for I put my trust in thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

In Depression of Spirits. (2.)

O ETERNAL GOD, Father of mercies, and God of all comfort, look upon the sadness and sorrow of thy servant. My sins lie heavy upon me, and press me sore, and there is no rest in my soul by reason of my own evil dispositions ; the waters are gone over me, I stick fast in the deep mire, and my miseries are without comfort, because they are produced by my sins. I am so

utterly unworthy, that though I have great desires, I have no disposition towards comfort. My sins have caused my sorrow, and my sorrow does not cure my sins, unless for thy own sake, because thou art all good and merciful, thou shalt pity and relieve me, I am as much without remedy, as without comfort. Lord pity me. Lord, let thy grace refresh my spirits; thy mercy pardon me; nor let my portion be with hopeless and accursed spirits. Thou art good and gracious, and I throw myself upon thy mercy. Do thou with me what seems best in thine eyes. I cannot suffer more than I have deserved, but thou art infinitely more merciful than I can be miserable, and thy mercy, which is above all thy own works, must be above my sin and misery. Dearest Saviour, let me trust in thee, and let me never be confounded. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For Repentance.

O ALMIGHTY God, who lovest not that a sinner should perish, be pleased to work in me what thou hast commanded should be in me. Lord I am an unprofitable servant, I have behaved myself like an unconcerned person in the ruins and breaches of my soul. But, O God, thou art my God,

early will I seek thee: turn my sin into repentance, and let my repentance proceed to pardon and refreshment. Support me by thy grace; strengthen me with thy spirit; soften my impenitent and hardened heart; make the remaining portion of my days like the perpetual watches of the night, full of caution and observance, strong and resolute, patient and severe. I remember with shame that I have sinned with passion and by choice: let my hatred of sin be as great as my love to thee. O dearest Saviour, have pity on thy servant; let every sigh be the expression of a sincere and deep-rooted repentance: may every cross I endure in this life be a punishment of sin and an incitement to pardon. O grant me sorrow here, if it tend to my eternal good and joy hereafter, through Jesus Christ, who is our hope, and the glory of all faithful souls. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

Confession of Sin.

I ACKNOWLEDGE, dear God, that I have deserved the greatest of thy indignation; that if thou hadst dealt with me according to my deserts, I should now be bewailing my miseries in a sad eternity; but thy mercy triumphing over thy justice and my sins, thou hast still continued to me time

for repentance. Thou hast opened to me the gates of mercy and grace, that I might glorify thee. O God, grant that I may at length enter into these gates, and walk hereafter in purity and holiness, by the aid of thy holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ my Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For Pardon of Sins.

O ETERNAL FATHER, I humbly prostrate myself at the foot of thy mercy-seat, in the confidence of thy command, that we should come to the throne of grace, and find mercy in time of need. O God, hear the prayers of a sinner who implores thy mercy. **LORD** my necessities are greater than my desires can be; unless thou hast pity on me, I perish everlastingly. But, O **LORD**, in mercy deliver my soul; O save me for thy mercies sake. O just and dear God, my sins are innumerable; they are upon my soul in multitudes; they are a burthen too heavy for me to bear, already bringing sorrow and heaviness of spirit, a sense of present displeasure, and fear of worse, infinitely worse. Yet although my sins be great, and my fears proportionable, yet thy mercy is still greater. **LORD** thou hast sent thy Son to die for the pardon of our sins, and thy servant begs ear-

neestly and hopes humbly for the effect of thine infinite loving kindness. **LORD**, I deserve it not, but I hope thou wilt pardon all my offences, and I beg it of thee for my Saviour's sake, whom thou hast made the great Endearment of thy promise, and the Foundation of our hopes, and the only means whereby we can obtain of thee what we need. **LORD**, I confess my sins daily to thee, by the secret accusations of my conscience. I put my trust in thee, and thou art ever gracious to them that trust in thee. I call upon thee for mercy, who art more ready to hear than we to pray. But all that I can do, all that I am, and all that I knew of myself, is nothing but sin, infirmity, and misery; therefore I throw myself wholly on thy mercy, through Jesus Christ, and beg thee for his death and passion's sake by his resurrection and ascension, that thou wouldst show pity and compassion to thy servant in the abolition of her sins; so shall I praise thee with a pure heart, and a peaceful conscience, through my blessed Redeemer. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For Aid of the Spirit.

HEAR, most merciful Saviour, I most humbly beseech thee, and let thy grace ever

assist the endeavours and designs of thy weak and unworthy servant. I am not able of myself to do or think any thing that is good or well-pleasing in thy sight. O let thy holy Spirit ever guard me against the temptations which so strongly encounter me; fix my mind that I may not be led away with the errors of the wicked, but that I may persevere in good works unto the end. Moderate my affections and desires, and center them only on such objects as are well-pleasing in thy sight. Let thy will be my sole guide, that all my hopes and wishes may center in thee alone, and that nothing may seem desirable to me in comparison of a pure heart and a peaceful conscience. O knit my heart unto thee, that I may fear thy name. Make me to love thee above all things, for thou, LORD, art my only hope and rest. O grant that I may find this rest unto my soul both here and hereafter, through the mediation of my blessed Redeemer. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

For Aid of the Spirit.

[Whole Duty of Man.]

O LORD my GOD, who by thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, hast promised thy holy Spirit to them who ask him of thee, I beseech thee to give him to me in all the

graces and assistances of which I stand in need. I ask him in all humility and earnestness, as the greatest blessing I can receive. I ask him in the sense of my own weakness, as knowing without his continual inspiration I can desire nothing that is good, or do any thing that is acceptable to thee; O therefore let him be with me, and remain with me, and assist and support me in all trials when I most need his help; let him be to me a spirit of sanctification to purify my corrupt nature, a Spirit of counsel in all difficulties, of direction in all doubts, of courage in all dangers, of constancy in all persecutions, of comfort in all troubles (especially in the hour of death), and of entire resignation to thy holy will and pleasure in all afflictions that are most grievous to flesh and blood. Leave me not a moment to my own human frailty without his assistance, but let him constantly inspire me with fear, love, and devotion to thee, with truth, justice, and charity towards my neighbours, and with abstinence and sobriety towards myself. Furthermore, I beseech thee, let him be unto me a Spirit of patience under all crosses and in all provocations, a Spirit of truth, and stedfast repose of mind in thy care and providence, a Spirit of forgiveness to my enemies; a Spirit of humility to make me quiet and easy in myself, meek and gentle to others, and to free me from

all the sin and torment of envy, malice, and avarice, and finally, so let him guide and govern me through the whole course of my life here, that I may not fail to obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

On Reading the Scriptures.

PARDON, O GOD, the little regard I have hitherto paid to the manifestations of thy will; for the time to come I will endeavour to attend with my utmost power to what thou deliverest. Speak, LORD, for thy servant heareth. Let me read to holy purposes. Strengthen, O LORD, my memory, that I may always retain the things that may most contribute to my increase in the knowledge and love of thee, that being conformed to the image of my blessed Saviour here below, I may partake of his glories, in the world to come. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

Against Worldly Thoughts. (1.)

[*Dr. Johnson.*]

O LORD, my Maker, and Protector, who hast graciously sent me into this world to work out my salvation, enable me to drive from me all such unquiet and worldly

thoughts as may hinder me in the practice of those duties which thou hast required, and while it shall please thee to continue me in this world where much is to be done, and little to be known; let me serve thee in active zeal, and patient expectation, till the time in which the soul which thou receivest shall be satisfied with knowledge. Grant this, O LORD, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

Against Worldly Thoughts. (2.)

O RAISE up my soul, blessed Lord, out of the dust and rubbish of earthly desires; quicken my dulness in thy service, comfort me in all my sadness; dispel all the mists of error and ignorance which cloud my understanding; deliver me from the incursions of worldly thoughts; enlarge my heart from the bondage of sin and Satan, and out of the fetters of all temptations to evil, and so strengthen me in the way which thou hast commanded, that I may obtain what thou hast promised through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

In Sickness.

[V.S.]

ALMIGHTY FATHER of all mercies, and God of all consolation, who called me into being, and hast preserved me to this awful hour; when thy hand presseth sore against me, and the sorrows of my heart are enlarged. My body now tendeth to decay, and oppresseth me with grievous pains. My mind is no longer enlightened with thoughts of thy mercy, but afflicteth me with the sore remembrance of my offences. Blessed LORD thou art pure and holy, and I am sinful and disobedient. To thy promised mercy through Christ, do I flee for hope. O lift up the light of thy countenance upon me, say unto my soul, "thy sins are forgiven, depart in peace;" even so my heavenly Father be it, and grant that I may resign my will wholly unto thee, that no suffering of body or mind may make me forego my hope in thy goodness, so that at the awful close of life, my soul may be full of peace; thus trusting in the infinite mercies of my Creator and Redeemer, I rest my soul and cast my care on thee, hoping, through the mediation of my blessed Saviour, for a glorious resurrection in everlasting life. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

In Sickness.

O HEAVENLY FATHER, who in thy wisdom knowest what is best for me, if it seem good in thy sight divert this distemper from seizing on me, so that I may employ my health to thy glory, and praise thee for ever. But if thou art pleased to proceed against me, I entirely desire to submit to thy afflicting hand ; for thou art wont to chastise none but those whom thou lovest, and I am persuaded thou wilt lay no more on me than thou wilt enable me to bear. I likewise believe that this visitation is intended for my good, even to humble and reform me ; O grant it may work that saving effect in me. **LORD,** create in me a true, penitent sorrow for all my past sins, a lively faith in thy mercy, and sincere resolutions to become a new creature for the future. Preserve me from all frowardness and impatience, and give me grace and strength to submit to all thy dispensations with a perfect resignation to thy divine will. Let not this disease deprive me of my senses ; but as the outward man decayeth, do thou strengthen the inward man with comforts equal to my pressures. And thou, **O LORD,** who givest medicine to heal our sicknesses,

bleſs thoſe means uſed for my recovery, and reſtore me to my bodily health and ſtrength in thy due time. But if thou haſt appointed this ſickneſs unto death, thy bleſſed will be done, and ſo teach me to number my days that I may apply my heart unto wiſdom, that hereafter I may partake of that bleſſed ſtate where all tears ſhall be wiped away from mine eyes, and death and ſorrow ſhall be no more, for thy dear ſon Jeſus Chriſt's ſake. *Amen, Lord Jeſus.*

A Prayer to be uſed by One going on a Journey.

O GOD, who art alike preſent in all places, and preſerveſt man and beaſt, bleſſed be thy name for the knowledge thou haſt given me of thy wiſe and merciful providence, who makeſt thy angels miniſtering ſpirits, for them that ſhall be heirs of ſalvation.

I commit my ſoul and body to thy protection, who art the defender of all them that put their truſt in thee. To thee, O Lord, do I commit myſelf, and all that belongs to me, I entirely depend on thy goodneſs to be with me, and proſper me in the way that I am going. Give thy holy angels charge of me, and defend me

from all thieves and robbers, and from all casualties, and evil accidents, if it be thy blessed will; and I beseech thee, more especially, to accompany me with the presence of thy Holy Spirit, to preserve my soul in safety, from all evil thoughts, passions, or desires that may any way offend thy Divine Majesty. Deliver me from the danger of any evil company, into which I may fall, that I may not frame myself to the manners of profane persons, but by a pious and discreet behaviour rather reprove them; and give me grace thankfully to embrace the company of those who are good, if I be blessed with it; that I may rejoice in their society, and improve it to my increase of wisdom, and pious affection towards thee. Bless and defend this habitation which I am now leaving, and all remaining in it; that whatever distance we may be from one another, we may all live and walk in the same spirit of faith, and love, and holiness. Grant me a happy meeting again with my friends and relations, if it be thy will and pleasure; but howsoever thou shalt think fit to dispose of us in this world, bring us in the end of our pilgrimage, into that blessed rest which thou hast prepared for thy faithful servants, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A Thanksgiving after a Return from a Journey.

BLESSED be thy name, O GOD, who hast protected and preserved me from many perils and dangers in the journey I have lately taken, thou hast been a covering to me night and day, in every place where I have been, from many dangers; and hast at last brought me in peace and safety to my relations and friends, whom thou hast protected, and their dwellings from all evil accidents.

To thy good providence, I wholly owe it; and I desire to be duly thankful for these and all other thy great mercies and deliverances, who hast dealt so bountifully with me.

Endue me, O GOD of all grace, with a more serious spirit, often reflecting and meditating upon thee, and upon thy benefits both to my soul and body; for this life, and that which is to come; that I may not be taught the value and number of thy blessings, by being deprived of them, but in their constant uses and enjoyment, may praise thy infinite goodness and mercy with sensible love to thee, and delight in doing thy will.

Bless all others, I beseech thee, that de-

sire the same mercy, of which thou hast made me a partaker. Receive them into thy protection; conduct them in safety to the end of their journey; make them ever mindful of thy loving-kindness, and remember every new benefit is a new obligation to better obedience; for thy mercies sake in Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

*PRAYER of MADAME ELIZABETH of
FRANCE.*

O MY GOD, I know not what is to befall me this day, but I am assured that nothing will happen which thou hast not foreseen, and ordained from all eternity; this is enough for me. I adore thy eternal and impenetrable designs. I submit to them with my whole heart; I desire, I accept of all; I make a sacrifice to thee of all, and I unite this sacrifice with that of my divine Saviour. I beg of thee, in his name, and by his infinite merits, patience in all my sufferings, and that perfect and entire submission to thy dispensations which is due to thee. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

[M.S.]

O FATHER of mercies, God of all comforts, who hast, by thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, promised thy Holy Spirit to them that ask it, behold thy servant imploring thy aid, that with all humility I may acknowledge my manifold sins, and obtain thy forgiveness; create in me a new and contrite heart, and renew in me, most merciful God, that purity of soul which the world and my own corrupt affections have taken away; impute not to me involuntary errors and infirmities; and may a just sense of thy innumerable mercies strike me with abhorrence of all wilful sins. Let a due sense of thy mercies keep me steady in the plain path of integrity and all christian duties: may I seek peace and ensue it, be merciful and charitable to all men; and keep my heart with all diligence, lest the cares and pleasures of life should divert my thoughts, and wean my soul from those spiritual joys which can alone sweeten the bitterness of life, and bestow on me that peace which the world cannot give. And when this earthly scene shall fade away, may I be received into the everlasting mansions prepared for the disciples of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and when

my heart and flesh shall fail, be thou, O God, the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

[M.S.]

ALMIGHTY LORD GOD, I present to thee my humble tribute of praise. I look to thee, O Father, beseeching thee to assist me to obtain that peace which the world cannot give; always remembering the example of my Saviour, may I imitate his unspotted purity, his universal charity, and entire resignation to thy will, that in all things bearing his image and following his example, I may be a partaker of his heavenly kingdom. Arm me, blessed LORD, against the fears of approaching dissolution, that I may no longer consider death but as the fulfilment of thy gracious promise to open to me the gate of everlasting life, when I shall be perfected through the merits of my Redeemer. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

[M.S.]

ALMIGHTY GOD, I return thee my humble and hearty thanks for all the blessings which thou hast continually dispensed to me:

but above all, I thank thee, that in giving me this life thou hast made me capable of attaining eternal happiness through the merits of my Saviour. O God, I confess myself wholly unworthy of these blessings, and that I have done those things which I ought not to have done. But, O LORD, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and art always more ready to forgive than to punish, spare me, I humbly beseech thee, and let the vengeance I have justly incurred, be averted from me. For the sake of my blessed Redeemer receive me into thy gracious favour. As I look to thee for the forgiveness of my past sins, so do I implore thy future guidance: thou art the protector of all who trust in thee; we can do no good thing without thee, grant me the help of thy grace, make me truly penitent for my sins, and sanctify my heart, that I may in all things please thee. While it is thy gracious will to bless me with prosperity, endue me with humility and moderation, and when thou seest good to try me with affliction, grant me patience and thorough resignation to thy will, and a firm trust in thy mercy. Give to me, O LORD, that most excellent gift of Christian charity, and dispose me to return good for evil, and rather to excuse than condemn the failings of others. Establish in me a spirit of

content, and enable me to discharge the duties of my station with diligence and cheerfulness. O LORD, in thy mercy uphold my soul, that I may enjoy the blessed consciousness that the same divine power which breathed in me the first breath of life, will recall the last parting throb to himself, and receive the immortal spirit into the mansions of peace, where neither sin nor sorrow shall enter. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

[MS.]

O THOU who art the Source of life and all goodness, I would call forth every grateful and pious affection of my heart in devout adoration of thee, the LORD of all. Accept my unfeigned thanks for thine innumerable mercies: the air I breathe, the bread I eat, bear testimony of thy goodness; when I awake thou art present to protect me by thy power, when I lie down to rest, thou art my sole defence. It becometh me, gracious LORD, to search my heart, and confess myself unworthy of thy goodness; the powers of my mind have been abused, and the social affections, implanted by thee as a source of enjoyment, I have perverted by my untoward passions. To thee I flee for succour; speak

peace to me, and let thy holy Spirit purify my heart, that all my thoughts may be directed to serve thee in holiness of living. Remove temptation from me, lest, being full, I forget thee and become unmindful of the distresses of my fellow-creatures. Grant, gracious LORD, that when I shall sleep the sleep of death, I may rise to the life immortal and be re-united to those dear friends who have departed this life in thy faith and fear, and possess in thy presence fulness of joy, and pleasures at thy right hand for evermore, through the merits of my blessed Redeemer, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

[*MS.*

ALMIGHTY GOD, with whom live the spirits of just men made perfect, I humbly implore thy aid, so daily to prepare myself for thy awful summons out of this life, that with a composed mind, a truly penitent and resigned heart I may submit myself wholly to thee. Cleanse me, O Father, in the blood of the spotless Lamb that was slain to take away the sins of the world, that all the defilement I have contracted may be done away. Grant me such a full

conviction of the uncertainty of my life, as may make me number the hours and days of my abode here, and employ them in the search of heavenly wisdom which can alone exalt my desires above the perishable things of this life, and fix my desire only on thy favour. Blessed LORD suffer me not, from any pain of body, or distress of mind, to let go my humble hope in thy goodness, but mercifully in the awful hour of departure, strengthen me that I may joyfully resign my spirit into thy hands, trusting in the infinite mercy of my Father, my Creator, and my Redeemer, to whom with the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory for evermore. *Amen*

Ejaculations.

In Temptation.

LORD let not the enemy prevail against me; be thou my strength and support me in this hour of trial.

In Affliction.

IT comes O LORD from thy hand, therefore I receive it with submission, and I will wait thy time for my deliverance.

On falling into Sin.

MISERABLE wretch that I am, to offend

so good a GOD; pardon for Christ's sake,
O GOD, this my sin, and enable me to avoid
it for the time to come.

On Deliverance from Danger.

I OWE this mercy to thee, O LORD, who
art the Fountain of all good, and I will show
my gratitude, by serving thee all the days
of my life.

On coming into Church.

[*R. Sherlock.*]

LET thy merciful ears, O LORD, be open
to the prayers of thy humble servant, and
grant that what I ask faithfully I may ob-
tain effectually through Jesus Christ. O
GOD, forasmuch as without thee we are not
able to please thee, grant that thy holy
Spirit may in all things direct and rule my
heart, and more especially assist me in all
the actions of this day; and since by rea-
son of my sin I am unworthy to offer up
any sacrifice to thee, grant to me, merciful
LORD, pardon and peace, that being cleansed
from all my sins, I may serve thee with a
quiet mind, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Preparatory Prayer.

BLESSED LORD, who hast commanded and

invited us to pray unto thee, O let thy holy Spirit help my infirmities, and do thou so dispose my mind and prepare my heart, that my prayers and praises may be acceptable in thy sight, through the mediation and for the sake of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYER.

[*Bishop Wilson.*

O GOD, enable me by thy holy Spirit to repent of my past sins truly and honestly, to turn to thee with all my heart, my mind, my soul, and my strength; to think thee only good and excellent, and every consideration unconnected with my duty to thee, absolutely mean and contemptible, enable me to keep steadfast in the way of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments, worshipping thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life. Take me, O God, into thy special protection; preserve me from the various evils that are surrounding me, the effects of my own passions and the effects of the passions of others. O God, preserve me here in soul and body, and when this life is ended, grant me thine eternal rest and happiness, through the merits of the same Christ,

eternally blessed God, for evermore. In thee, O LORD, I put my trust, let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness. *Amen.*

Meditations.

MEDITATION

On the Sense of Sin.

NOTHING is so discouraging to the humble and repenting Christian as the little power which we possess over our habits, and the conviction how little our best intentions avail us to correct the lesser sins, those worms which imperceptibly as it were, work our eternal ruin. A constant mistrust of ourselves, a continual watchfulness; a never-ceasing disposition to prayer can alone protect us from the snare of evil habits. The danger seems little, because the offences in themselves, and taken separately are small, but, Oh ! merciful Saviour, who hast given us an example of all perfection, how great must be the sum of them when added together; let me every morning resolve to struggle against the sins which too easily beset me, and let every evening

witness my deep contrition for my failures. Without thee, my God, we can indeed do nothing; O hold thou up my goings in thy paths that my footsteps slip not. When I remember how little a portion of my time has been employed in the service of God, and how much has been spent in the service of sin, my spirit is wounded within me, and my heart within me is desolate. Assist me, blessed LORD, to redeem that precious time which I have hitherto mis-spent in idleness, and neglect of thy word. Give me the power to direct my thoughts to the consideration of death, judgment, hell, and heaven.

The Scriptures, and the articles of our own church, tell us plainly enough that we have all deserved condemnation, and that nothing but the merits of an Almighty Saviour can make us acceptable to God.

O Blessed Jesus be graciously pleased in thine infinite mercy to pardon our innumerable sins, to enlighten my heart, that I may see them in all their vileness, and be so deeply affected with the view, that I may loathe them as the most dreadful evils, granting me the blessed influences of thy holy Spirit to purify my soul, and cleanse it from these stains. O LORD, rebuke me not in thine indignation, neither chasten me in thy heavy displeasure.

MEDITATION

On Death.

SIR WILLIAM FORBES in his last moments declared, that from his experience the bed of death had no terrors; that in the hour when it was most wanted, there was mercy from the Most High, and that some change took place which fitted the soul to meet its God.

In no long time (how soon is known only to the Great Disposer of all events) I also shall be numbered with those who have been. May a situation so awful make its due impression on my mind, and may it be my care to employ the short period which yet remains to me in such a manner, that when the last dread hour shall come, in which my soul shall be required of me, I may look forward with trembling hope to a happy immortality through the merits and mediation of our blessed Redeemer.

MEDITATION.

[*Hannah More.*

LET me frequently figure to myself the moment (and who can say that moment may not be the next), when all I cling to shall

elude my grasp ; when every earthly good shall be to me as if it had never been, except in the remembrance of the use I have made of it ; when my eyes shall close upon a world of sense, and open upon a world of spirits ; when there shall be no relief for the fainting body, and no refuge for the parting soul, except in the everlasting mercies of God, through Christ Jesus.

MEDITATION.

Sherlock.

REMEMBER, O my soul, that thou art immortal, and that death is but the change of a troublesome for a quiet life, of a frail for a fixed and permanent being. I should not fear the end of this life, did I rightly hope for the beginning of a better ; it is for want of treasures laid up in heaven, that I fear to die. I should not dare to sin against my God, did I seriously consider, in every act I do, and in every moment I breathe, that I am hastening to my last breath, and that I must give account as of every moment of my time, so of every work both good and evil, at what time soever performed. It was surely thus that St. Paul died daily.

From the forgetfulness of my death, and the uncertainty of my life, from every evil work into which such forgetfulness may betray me, and from an unprepared death, good LORD deliver me.

MEDITATION.

[*Bishop Wilson.*]

A HOLY confidence to die well is produced, 1st, by a perpetual contempt of the world; 2ndly, by a thorough self-denial; 3rdly, by a fervent endeavour for proficiency in grace; 4thly, by the unwearied labour of true repentance; 5thly, by a ready obedience to all God's commands; 6thly, by suffering patiently, yea, even joyfully, all adversities for the love of Christ.

Death is the wages of sin, and I have sinned, vile wretch that I am, and what shall I say unto my God? All I can say is the same still, I have sinned, and as long as I have a day to live, I will confess my wickedness, and be sorry for my sin. Mercy, good LORD! Look graciously on me, O LORD, I beseech thee, in the time of my dissolution; and the more the outward man decays, strengthen me so much the more continually by thy grace and holy Spirit. Give me unfeigned repentance for all the

errors of my life past, and a stedfast faith in thy dear Son, that my sins may be done away by thy mercy, and my pardon sealed in heaven before I go hence, and am no more seen.

MEDITATION.

Death and Judgment.

[*Bishop Wilson.*

IN my last hour, O LORD, I humbly beg thy protection from the busy suggestions of evil spirits. O let not my faith fail, or my hope wither, or my charity wax cold with the waning flesh; but when mine eyes are darkened, and my tongue falters, then, O then let my heart be enlarged towards thee, waiting on thee, longing for thee incessantly, and praying show me thy mercy O LORD, and grant me thy salvation. Since my days are but as a span, short and uncertain, I humbly beseech thee, O LORD, to wean my heart from the disquietudes of worldly cares, that I may be diligent in all the good works of obedience and charity, that so recovering the spiritual health of my soul, I may die in thy grace and favour through Jesus Christ. It is appointed once to man to die, and after that the judgment. When the dust shall return to the earth as it was,

then shall the spirit return to God that gave it, to give an account of the work done in the body whether it be good or evil. My own conscience will then be as a thousand witnesses; for then, freed from the clog of the corrupted body, all my desires, my words and works shall appear to my conscience in their genuine colours. O, who then shall be able to answer thee, thou most worthy Judge eternal, if thou shouldst be extreme to mark what is amiss. O God who art justly displeased at our sins and pacified by our true repentance, spare all who confess their sins unto thee, that they whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy merciful pardon may be absolved through Jesus Christ. In the hour of death, and in the day of judgment good LORD deliver me!

MEDITATION.

IN the day of judgment, the most seared conscience of the wicked, and the most subtle conscience of the hypocrite, shall by the all-piercing light of the divine Majesty be displayed as if all their counsels had been written with a beam of the sun; for thou, O LORD, hast set our misdeeds before thee, and our secret sins in the light of thy countenance. Have mercy upon me, O

GOD, in that great day have mercy upon me: let me not, during the short remainder of my days, be occupied with them that do evil. What heart can worthily think of these things without trembling, and great astonishment, if not purified, and sincerely devoted to the service of God. Teach me, O LORD, thy way, and I will walk in thy truth. O knit my heart unto thee, that I may fear to offend the great and righteous Judge of the world in the least particular of thought, or desire, in word or deed.

MEDITATION.

[*R. Sherlock.*]

O RAISE up thy soul, I do here summon thee, whoever thou art that readest these meditations, and thou art hereby summoned to give an account at the last great day of every passage through thy whole life, which shall be as thoroughly sifted and examined, as if there were none but thyself to be tried, as if no cause but thine were to be heard. Prepare thyself now—now that thou hast time and leisure; prepare for that great day, for upon thy trial then depends thy everlasting well-being or miserable undoing for ever; now then cast up thy account carefully; examine,

try, and judge thyself; confess thy manifold sins; humble thyself greatly under the mighty hand of God; appease the wrath of the great Judge of the world by prayers and tears, and all the sacred offices of true repentance, by alms and fastings often.

Blessed LORD, let not, I humbly beseech thee, any importunate cravings of this corruptible flesh, seduce me, nor the flattering and false felicities of worldly wealth deceive me; but grant that I, being free from all pollutions, both of the one and the other, may await thy coming in all confidence, to hear that joyful sentence, "Come ye blessed of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world." Grant this, O heavenly Father, however unworthy I am of thy mercy, in pity to my repentance and contrition, and for the sake of my blessed Redeemer.

MEDITATION

On the State of the Soul

[*Law.*

Do not expect a constant degree of sensible fervour; nature will have its share; the ups and downs of that are to be overlooked: while the will spirit is good and set right,

the changes of creaturely fervour lessen not our union with God.

O holy Jesus, meek lamb of God, "bread of life that came down from heaven," light and life of all holy souls! help me to a true and lively faith in thee. O fill my soul with such a sense of thy divine perfection, with all thy holy nature, spirit, temper, and inclination, that I may be in thee a new creature; quickened and revived, led and governed by thy holy Spirit.

MEDITATION.

Self Condemnation.

Bishop Wilson.

RECEIVE every inward and outward trouble, pain, disappointment, uneasiness, temptation and desolation, as a true opportunity and blessed occasion of dying to self, and entering into a fuller fellowship with thy self-denying, suffering Saviour. Look at no inward or outward trouble in any other view, and then every trial will become the blessed means of final prosperity. That state is best which exercises the highest faith in, and fullest resignation to God.

Try me, O God, and seek the ground of

my heart; prove me and examine my thoughts: look well if there be any way of wickedness in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

I have not strictly examined my heart and life, to find out my sins which lurk in the dark; those sins which I have detected, I have not bewailed with that godly sorrow which the greatness of them requires. With my lips have I often confessed my sins, when my heart has not been truly humbled within me, under the deep sense of their pollution and danger, so as to loathe and abhor myself in dust and ashes. I have too often made a mock of the Almighty in the confession of my sins, by returning back to the sins confessed. Thus have I sinned, and have done wickedly, and have committed iniquity; and I have rebelled against thee, by departing from all thy most holy laws and judgments. God be merciful to me a sinner; I have entertained many vain, wandering, and worldly, and sometimes wicked imaginations in the time of thy service; have been dull and indevout in my prayers, much defective in self-denial, and too vain-glorious of the little good I have done to others, my secret sins are innumerable, sins secret through ignorance and forgetfulness, negligence, and a negligent self-examination; through wilful mis-persuasion;

sins which a diligent care might have prevented ; sins secret to the world, committed before thee only, and my own conscience : I am confounded with the multitude of them, and the horror of their remembrance ; have mercy upon me, most merciful Father, for thy Son, my lord Jesus Christ's sake ; forgive me all that is passed, and grant that ever hereafter, I may serve thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy name, and the eternal salvation of my soul.

O my God, when will that happy time arrive, when I shall be satisfied with thy presence ; when I shall love thee with the most intense fervour, worship thee with the greatest devotion and reverence my soul is capable of ; when I shall fear and adore thee, serve and praise thee with all my might, which is my most earnest desire ! Until this happy hour come, I must not hope to enjoy any true solid content, which is not to be attained but by a communion of the heart with God, and a sense of his presence and influence.

Self-Examination, Daily.

How have I spent the day ?

Have I performed my morning devotions, and how ?

Have I resigned myself to the will of God, to do and suffer his pleasure ?

Have I conversed with candour and sincerity ?—and avoided slander and evil speaking ?

How have I employed or improved my time ?

With what fidelity have I discharged the affairs in which I have been engaged ?

What mercies have I received ? Have I been sufficiently thankful for them ? What temptations have I resisted ?

Have I gained any ground in resisting the sin that doth most easily beset me ?

How have I governed my passions ? Have I not been too easily provoked by little accidents which daily happen ?

What opportunities have I had of doing good, and how have I improved them ?

What have I said or done to the increase of my religious impressions ?

Have I told no untruth ?

Who can restore to me the day that I have lost in the crowd of vain imaginations, and in the rubbish of worldly vanities ?

Self-Examination, Weekly.

I.

CAN I give a ready account of my faith?

Do I steadfastly believe the truth of each article of the Christian faith, though I may not understand them in their full extent?

Does my faith purify my heart from all unworthy thoughts of God? Does it increase my love to him? Does it make me devout in my prayers? Does it make God my choice above all the treasures of the world? Does my faith bring forth the fruits of good works?

In prosperity and adversity has my mind been stayed on God? Has not my mind been distracted by earthly cares and worldly concerns? Has my hope in the mercies of God, through the merits of Christ, emboldened me to go on in any known sin unrepented of?

Have I not feared more to sin in the sight of men than in the presence of God? Has my fear been filial, to offend so good a father, and not servile only, for fear of punishment? Am I quick, active, regular,

and constant, in my obedience to God's laws?

Have I not been secretly glad of any excuse to absent myself from church, and when there, have I not, through want of fervour in prayer, called down a curse rather than a blessing?

Have I endeavoured to purify my heart from all hypocrisy, and to cleanse it from all sin before I make my approaches to the most holy God in prayer?

II.

Have I not served the creature more than the Creator, by making a god of the world, and by covetousness, which is idolatry?

Have I worshipped God with actual devotion of soul, as also with external and humble posture of body?

III.

Have I not used the word of God in common conversation to excite merriment?

Have I often examined myself by the solemn vow made in baptism, confessing and bewailing my many transgressions of it, and daily renewing my covenant with God? In

ordinary swearing God is only called as a witness, but here he is a party concerned.

Have I not often neglected to attend the sacrament, and when I have received it, have I prepared myself by a thorough self-examination, with contrition and godly sorrow, and with a full purpose of amendment, with a lively faith in the mercy of God, through the merits of Christ, with all devotion of heart, and grateful acknowledgments, with entire and unfeigned charity to all men? Have I, after receiving it, felt my worldly thoughts decaying, a sense of God's mercy refreshing my soul? If not, I may justly suspect myself guilty of undue preparation, or sinful defect in participation.

IV

Have I not omitted the duties of the Lord's day? Have I not done many unnecessary works, by travelling, visiting, &c.? Have I kept the true sabbath by retiring from the service of sin, and being wholly devoted to the service of God, as far as human circumstances would admit of?

V.

Have I not been stubborn and irreverent to my parents.

Have I neglected to comfort them in their old age?

Have I sufficiently endeavoured to give my children and servants religious impressions, and been careful to recommend my precepts by my example?

VI.

Have I not been guilty of immoderate anger, and been peevish and disgusted at trifles?

Have I not envied the persons and prosperity of others?

Have I relieved, to the best of my power, the sick and needy? Have I ever abridged my own comforts to minister to their wants?

Have I not been pleased to hear of the disgrace, losses, and even death of others? Have I not been wanting in Christian charity? Have I been tender-hearted, meek, and easy to be entreated, as becomes a true disciple of Christ?

VII.

Have I not entertained impure and loose thoughts? Have I endeavoured to preserve myself in temperance and chastity? Have I not mis-spent much of the precious time which was lent me to work out my salvation, in folly and vanity?

VIII.

Have I ~~never~~ been guilty of defrauding and overreaching? Have not I been, unlike thee, my God, uncharitable and unjust.

IX.

Have I spoken the truth at all times? Have I not uttered lies of many kinds—officious, boasting, scurrilous, and flattering lies? Have I not defamed and censured others, being myself far more worthy to be condemned? Have I not spoken of the mote in my brother's eye, and been blind to my own monstrous sins?

X.

Having every thing necessary for the support of this life, have I been contented and thankful? Have I not been solicitous for more?

And now, O Lord, I do not only with great confusion of face, confess and bewail the sinfulness of my whole life, but I do steadfastly resolve (by the aid of thy Holy Spirit directing me) to renounce all the works of the devil. Be pleased, O Lord,

to strengthen all these good resolves in me, and I humbly beseech thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to give me grace to continue in them to my life's end. *Amen.*

MEDITATION IN A WAKEFUL NIGHT.

Selected from the Psalms.

PONDER my words, O LORD, and direct my meditations! O, hearken thou unto the voice of my calling, my King and my God, for unto thee will I direct my prayer: my voice shalt thou hear betimes in the morning; early will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

Have I not remembered thee in my bed, and thought upon thee when I was waking; because thou hast been my helper, therefore, under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

I will cry unto God with my voice, and he shall hearken unto me; when I am in heaviness I will think upon God; in the night I commune with my own heart, and search out my spirit.

I look for the LORD, my soul doth wait for him: in his word is my trust: my soul fleeth unto the LORD before the morning watch, I say before the morning watch.

O LORD, thou hast searched me out and known me; thou knowest my down-sitting, and mine up-rising; thou understandest my thoughts long before.

Thou art about my path, and about my bed, and spiest out all my ways; for lo! there is not a word in my tongue, but thou, **O LORD**, knowest it altogether.

Whither shall I go then from thy presence, or whither shall I go from thy Spirit? If I climb up into Heaven thou art there; if I go down into hell thou art there also. If I take the wings of the morning, and remain in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there also shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say peradventure the darkness shall cover me, then shall my night be turned into day; yea, the darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day; the darkness and light to thee are both alike.

How dear are thy counsels to me, **O GOD**; **O** how great is the sum of them: if I tell them, they are more in number than the sand; when I wake up I am present with thee.

LORD, I call upon thee, haste thee unto me, and consider my voice when I cry unto thee. Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense, and let the lifting up

of my hands be an evening sacrifice. O let me hear thy loving kindness betimes in the morning, for in thee is my trust: show thou me the way that I should walk in, for I lift up my soul to thee.

[Encouraged by the favourable reception which this little work has met with, the Editor has added a few Hymns selected from various authors, and ventures to recommend committing them to memory: she has found the practice of repeating them eminently useful in solitary walks, during many a sleepless night, and many an anxious day.]

Lyrica Sacra.

HYMNS.

Worship of the LORD.—[MS.]

In every place, at every hour,
 Though poor my worship be,
 In weal or wee, in shine or shower,
 O LORD, I worship thee.
 I worship thee in Fear, by night,
 And thoughts of death employ ;
 But soon as beams the glorious light,
 I worship thee in Joy.

In Wonder, LORD, I worship thee,
 When on thy works I gaze ;
 So various, lovely, vast they are,
 I pause in deep amaze.
 I worship thee in Hope, when low,
 Each daily care I prove :
 And when rich fields with fulness flow,
 I worship thee in Love.

When thunders roll, and whirlwinds fly
 I worship thee in Awe,
 And praise, as clears the glorious sky,
 Thy Mercy, Love, and Law.
 Thus every hour, in every place,
 Though poor my worship be,
 In Fear, Love, Wonder, Joy, and Praise,
 O LORD, I worship thee.

HYMN

For the New Year.

REMARK, my soul, the narrow bounds
Of the revolving year,
How swift the weeks complete their rounds,
How short the months appear.

So fast Eternity comes on,
And that important day,
When all that mortal life hath done,
God's judgment shall survey.

Waken, O LORD, my careless heart,
Its great concern to see;
That I may act the Christian's part,
And give the year to thee.

So shall their course more grateful roll,
If future years arise,
Or this shall bear my happy soul
To joy that never dies.

HYMN.

Purity of Heart.[*Mr. Hayley.*]

LORD, who hast called with sovereign
The heart thy real throne, [power
Teach me to feel thee every hour,
Implanted in my own.

Unstain'd, like glory's vital ray,
In scenes by seraphs trod,
Make thou the temple every day
More worthy of its God.

On Prayer.

LoRD, when we bend before thy throne,
And our confessions pour,
Teach' us to *feel* the sins we own,
And shun what we deplore.

Our contrite feelings pitying see,
And penitence impart;
And may a bright'ning ray from thee,
Beam peace upon the heart.

When we our wants disclose in pray'r,
May we our wills resign;
And not a thought our bosoms share,
But what is wholly thine.

Let faith each meek petition fill,
And waft it to the skies,
And teach us that 'tis wisdom still,
That grants it or denies.



Intercession.

O THOU from whom all goodness flows,
I lift my heart to thee:
In all my conflicts, struggles, woes,
Great God! remember me.

When on my fearful troubled heart,
My sins press heavily,
Thy pardon grant, thy peace impart,
Hear, and remember me!

When strong temptations croud my way,
And ills I cannot flee,
Oh! give thy strength to be my stay,
Father! remember me.

Though worn with sickness, pain, and grief,
My feeble frame may be,
Firm trust in thee will bring relief,
Oh! then remember me!

And when at last I sink in death,
And meet thy just decree,
Do thou receive my parting breath,
Save and remember me!

On Death.

OFF as the bell, with solemn toll,
Speaks the departure of a soul,
Let me from worldly feelings fly,
And ask, "Am I prepared to die?"

Soon leaving all I love below,
To God's tribunal I must go;
And hear the Judge pronounce my fate,
And fix my everlasting state.

Oh! could I bear to hear him say,
"Depart, accursed, far away!
"With Satan, 'mid the pains of hell,
"Thou art for ever doom'd to dwell."

Saviour! assist me now to see,
And fix my hopes alone on thee!
Thy gracious help, thy Spirit, give,
Subdue my sins and let me live.

Then, if the solemn bell I hear,
Strengthen'd by thee, I need not fear,
Nor would the thought alarming be,
"Perhaps it next may toll for me."

Rather, my spirit would rejoice,
And long, and wish to hear thy voice,
Glad, if it bids me earth resign,
Assur'd of heaven, if thou art mine.

On the Hope of a Future State.

As when the weary traveller gains
The height of some o'er looking hill,
His heart revives, if cross the plains
He sees his home, though distant still ;

While he surveys the much-lov'd spot,
He slights the space that lies between,
His past fatigues are all forgot,
Because his journey's end is seen :

So when the Christian pilgrim views,
By faith, his mansion in the skies,
The sight his yielding strength renews,
And wings his speed to gain the prize.

The thought of heav'n his spirit cheers,
No more he grieves for sorrows past,
Nor any future danger fears,
So he may safe arrive at last.

Saviour ! on thee my hopes I stay,
To lead me on to thy abode,
Assur'd thy love will well repay
The hardest labours of the road.

On Sickness.

WHEN pining sickness wastes the frame,
Acute disease and lingering pain ;
When life fast spends its feeble flame,
And all the help of man is vain,
Joyless and dark all things appear,
Languid the spirit, weak the flesh,
Med'cine can't heal, nor cordials cheer,
Nor food support, nor sleep refresh.

Oh ! then to have recourse to God,
To pray to him in time of need,
To ask relief through Jesu's blood,
This is to find a friend indeed.
And such, oh Christian, is thy lot,
Who cleavest to the Lord by faith,
He'll not forsake thee, doubt him not,
In pain, in sickness, or in death.

When flesh and heart decays and fails,
He shall thy strength and portion be,
Support thy spirit, heal thine ails,
And softly whisper, " Trust in me."
Himself shall be thy tender friend,
Thy kind companion and thy stay,
To smooth thy bed will condescend,
And chase thy burning tears away.

On the Shortness of Life.

ALMIGHTY Maker of my frame,
Teach me the number of my days,
Teach me to know how frail I am,
And spend the remnant to thy praise.
My days are shorter than a span,
A little point my life appears,
How frail alas ! is dying man,
How vain are all his hopes and fears.

Vain his ambition, noise, and show,
Vain all the cares which haunt his mind,
He heaps up treasure mix'd with woe,
He dies, and leaves them all behind,
Oh ! be a nobler portion mine,
My God, I bend before thy throne,
Earth's fleeting treasures I resign,
And fix my hopes on thee alone !

Retirement from the World.

FAR from the world, O LORD, I fly, [C wper.]
 From strife and danger far ;
 From scenes where Satan wages still,
 His too successful war.

The calm retreat, the quiet shade,
 With pray'r and praise agree,
 And seem by thy sweet bounty made,
 For those who follow thee.

There if thy Spirit touch the soul,
 And grace its mean abode,
 Oh ! with what joy, and peace, and love,
 It rises to its God !

There to an unseen Friend it pours
 Its solitary lays,
 Nor asks a witness to its song,
 Nor thirsts for human praise.

Author and Guardian of my life
 Sweet Source of light divine !
 And all harmonious names in one,
My Saviour !—thou art mine !

What thanks I owe thee, and what praise,
 An endless, boundless store,
 Shall echo through the realms above,
 'Till time shall be no more.

Trust in God.[*Cowper.*]

GOD moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform ;
He plants his footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.

Lo ! in unfathomable depths,
Of never-ending skill,
He treasures up his bright designs,
And works his sovereign will.

Afflicted soul, fresh courage take,
The clouds you so much dread,
Replete with mercies soon shall break,
In blessings on your head.

Judge not the **LORD** by feeble sense,
But trust him for his grace,
Beneath a frowning providence,
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes are opening fast,
Unfolding every hour ;
The bud may have the darkest hue
Yet lovely be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,
And judge his works in vain ;
GOD is his own interpreter,
And he will make them plain.

In deep Affliction.

God of my life ! to thee I call,
Afflicted at thy feet I fall ;
When the deep-water floods prevail,
Leave not my sinking heart to fail.

Friend of the friendless, and the faint,
Where shall I lodge my deep complaint ?
Where, but with thee, whose open door
Invites the wretched and the poor ?

When did the mourner plead to thee,
And thou refuse that mourner's plea ?
Does not the world still firm remain,
That none shall seek thy face in vain ?

Hard were the woes of life to bear,
Didst thou not hear and answer pray'r ;
But thou wilt listen from on high,
And all my inmost wants supply.

Though poor, unknown, despis'd, forgot,
Father of heav'n, forget me not.
Let him who once for sinners died,
My life direct, my spirit guide.

God our sufficient Trust.

WHY sinks my weak desponding mind ?
Why heaves my heart the anxious sigh ?
Can sovereign goodness be unkind ?
Am I not safe if GOD is nigh ?

His hand supports this feeble frame,
On him alone my hopes recline,
The matchless glories of his name,
How wide they spread, how bright they
shine !

Infinite Goodness ! matchless Power !
Unvarying Constancy and Love,
Here let me rest while I adore,
And from thy shelter ne'er remove.

If thou, O GOD, art with me still,
Then have I all my heart can crave,
A present help in time of need,
Still kind to hear, and strong to save.

Subdue my fears, then, blessed LORD,
And calm the sorrows of my breast,
Speak to my heart this gracious word,
"That thou art mine,"—and I am blest.

The Saviour our Refuge.

WHEN mourning o'er some stone I bend,
Which covers all that was a friend,
And from his voice, his hand, his smile,
Divides me for a little while,
Then Saviour mark the tears I shed,
For thou didst weep o'er Lazarus dead.

When vexing thoughts within me rise,
And sore dismay'd, my spirit dies;
When, writhing on a bed of pain,
I supplicate for rest in vain;
Still, still, my soul shall think on thee,
Thy bloody sweat, and agony.

And oh! when I have safely past,
Through every conflict but the last,
Wilt thou who once for me hast bled,
Wilt thou in sickness make my bed,
And bear me to that happier shore,
Where pain and grief shall be no more?



Care of Providence.

OH GOD ! our everlasting hope,
We live but in thy truth ;
Thy hands have held our childhood up,
And strengthen'd all our youth.
Still have our days fresh mercies seen
Repeated every year ;
Behold the hours which yet remain,
We trust them to thy care.

Reject us not when we decline,
And grey our hairs become ;
But round us let thy mercy shine,
And lead thy servants home.
So in the history of our age,
When others view our days,
They'll read thy love in every page,
In every line thy praise.

FINIS.

T. C. Hansard, Pater-noster-row Press.

INDEX.

Prayers and Meditations.

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
Affections, spiritualized	27	New Year's Day	23
Affliction	31	Omnipresence of God	27
Aid of the Spirit	38—39	Pardon of Sins	36
Birth Day	23—24	Preparatory Prayer	52
Coming into Church	52	Reading the Scriptures	41
Confession of Sin	36	Repentance	35
Death	59	Resignation	45
Depression of Spirit	32—33	Self-Condernnation	63
Ejaculations	51	Sense of Sin	54
Evening	19—20	Sickness	43—44
Faith and Grace	25—26	State of the Soul	62
Going to rest	22	Steadfast Resolutions	31
Invocation of the Spirit	30	Worldly Thoughts	41—42
Judgment	59	Wakeful Night	72
Meekness of Temper	28		

Lyrical Sacra.

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
Care of Providence	89	On a Future State	81
For the New Year	76	On Shortness of Life	83
God our sufficient Trust	87	Purity of Heart	77
In deep Affliction	86	Retirement	84
Intercession	79	The Saviour our Refuge	88
On Death	80	Trust in God	85
On Prayer	78	Worship of the Lord	75
On Sickness	82		

NEAT POCKET EDITIONS

of the following
ELEMENTARY BOOKS,

PUBLISHED BY

PEACOCK AND BAMPTON,

18, SALISBURY SQUARE, FLEET-ST. LONDON.

These Pocket Editions are designed as elementary Books for young Persons, and may be considered useful and elegant presents: Gentlemen travelling or going abroad can have these Books in a smaller compass than any of the like description extant, and well worthy of their attention.

JOHNSON'S ENGLISH DICTIONARY (Peacock's Pocket) new Edition, just published; with considerable corrections and additions, beautifully printed and hot-pressed, sheep lettered, 3s.; calf gilt, 4s. 6d.

TOCQUOT'S FRENCH AND ENGLISH DICTIONARY, sheep lettered, 5s.; calf gilt, 6s. 6d.

ITALIAN DICTIONARY, dedicated to the Princess Charlotte of Wales, sheep lettered, 10s. calf gilt, 12s.

DICTIONARY OF NATURAL HISTORY, new Edition, 48 plates, 9s. bds; coloured 12s. bds.

GEOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY, with 9 maps, sheep lettered, 7s. 6d.; maps coloured, calf gilt, 9s. 6d.

GEOGRAPHICAL GRAMMAR, 13 maps, sheep lettered, 7s. 6d.; maps coloured, calf gilt, 9s. 6d.

JONES'S BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY, 7th Edition, with Corrections to 1822; sheep lettered, 7s.; calf gilt, 8s.

Sets of Dictionaries,

3 vols. in Box, calf gilt 32s. morocco, 42s.

4 vols. 40s. 54s.

5 vols. 48s. 64s.

6 vols. 63s. 84s.

Books published by Peacock & Bampton.

KENDALL'S POCKET ENCYCLOPÆDIA, 4 vols.
new Edition, 48 plates, 24s. boards; neatly bound
and lettered, 28s.; calf gilt, 32s.; in a Box, calf gilt,
40s.; morocco, 52s. 6d.

DICTIONARY OF POLITE LITERATURE, in 2
vols. sheep lettered, 14s.; calf gilt, 16s.

COMPANION FOR THE ALTAR

A Pocket Edition, with suitable Prayers during the
Ceremony. Price, neatly done up, 1s. 3d.; sheep,
gilt edges, 2s.; calf, gilt edges, 2s. 6d.

PIETAS QUOTIDIANA.

PRAYERS AND MEDITATIONS for every Day
of the week, and on various Occasions; being a
Collection from the most eminent Divines and moral
Writers. Price, neatly done up, 1s. 6d.; sheep, gilt
edges, 2s.; calf, gilt edges, 2s. 6d.

4 DEGO

•• **COMPANION** for the ALTAR, with PIETAS
QUOTIDIANA, together, Price, neatly done
up, 2s. 6d.; sheep, gilt edges, 3s.; calf, gilt
edges, 3s. 6d.

